

REMARKS

Claims 3-6, 11-14, 16-21, and 23-26 are pending. Claim 20 has been amended to correct informalities. Dependent claims 24-26 have been added to more completely claim Applicants' invention. No new matter has been introduced. Applicants believe the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims 3-6, 11-14, 16-21, and 23 are patentable for the reasons set forth in the Amendment filed on June 16, 2000. For at least those reasons, dependent claims 24-26 are also patentable.

In the Office Action dated November 3, 1999, the Examiner indicated that claims 16 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants rewrote claims 16 and 20 as independent claims in the Amendment filed on February 2, 2000. The Examiner, however, rejected claims 16 and 20 in the Office Action dated April 18, 2000. During the telephone interview on May 30, 2000, Applicants' counsel, Chun-Pok Leung, sought clarification from the Examiner as to why claims 16 and 20 were rejected. The Examiner maintained the rejection in the advisory action dated July 7, 2000 without any comments regarding the basis for rejecting claims 16 and 20. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 16 and 20 are patentable. If the Examiner maintains the rejection of claims 16 and 20, Applicants would request the Examiner to more clearly set forth the basis for the rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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